

# THE SILENT WORLD.

Vol. III.

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No. 10.

## ANYTHING.

ANYTHING Thou sendest me,  
Lord, I would receive  
As a token of Thy love,  
Though at first I grieve.  
Easy 'tis Thy hand to bless  
When it brings but happiness:  
Help my faith to pierce the cloud,  
Should the pall of sorrow shroud.  
Help my heart to sing aloud,  
"Anything."

Lord, what matter it to me,  
So Thy will be done,  
Whether I shall work or wait,  
Till my setting sun.  
In my home and in my heart,  
Let me do or bear my part;  
Willing Thou my life should use,  
Willing Thou my way should choose,  
What Thou sendest me ne'er refuse:  
"Anything."

Any thing Thou sendest me  
May I count it gain,  
Though to earthly sight it seem  
Loss and bitter pain.  
Never wished I fame or wealth,  
But my heart has prayed for health:  
Shouldst Thou then this boon deny,  
Help my inmost soul to cry,  
"Bid me live, or bid me die,"  
"Anything."

—Evangelist.

## AMOS KENDALL.

### II.

It was a part of the parental teaching in the Kendall family never wantonly to take the life of any creature, snakes excepted. Birds and beasts which destroyed the farmer's crops, or were valuable for food, or on account of their skins, were fair game for his boys. In the neighboring streams and meadows were minks and muskrats, which were trapped by them, and the skins sold to raise "spending-money." Many an Autumn morning Amos left his bed before daylight, and, walking or running two or three miles, visited his traps and got home before sunrise. The boys were also allowed to cultivate a small patch of tobacco, which they manufactured into "pigtail" and sold to the chewers in the neighborhood. From these two sources were derived nearly all the funds they were able to control.

The amusements of Deacon Kendall's boys, other than such as are common to all youngsters, were fishing, both with the rod and spear, and hunting on a small scale. Salmon Brook, which ran through their father's farm, was stocked with a great variety of fish, though none of them were large. Fishing with the spear was chiefly practised at night. The boys had a skiff constructed by the oldest brother, in the center of which was raised a jack, composed of iron ribs, upon a standard four or five feet high. On this were piled pine-knots, which, being set on fire, produced a brilliant light. The pickerel sleep in still water near the surface, and by careful rowing they may be closely approached. It was a beautiful sight to see them lying motionless near the surface of the water; but it was cruel sport to strike them dead in that condition.

An incident occurred while the boys were fishing with the rod which made a deep impression on the mind of Amos. They were joined by some neighboring boys, who suggested that fishes' eyes were excellent bait. The experiment was tried, and several fish just caught having been ruthlessly deprived of their eyes, the sport proceeded with gratifying results. One of the boys put back into the stream a sunperch, yet in full life, both of whose eyes had been thus extracted. This method of providing bait was new to the young Kendalls, but when they gleefully described it to their father, he gave them an impressive lecture upon its cruelty, and painted so vividly the condition of the poor blind fish returned to its native element to starve, that throughout his long life, Amos Kendall, whenever he thought of it, seemed to see the mutilated creature, as he saw it then, making its dark way through the water among the bulrushes of Salmon Brook. It was thoughtlessness, and not cruelty, which furnished the occasion for this useful lecture.

The following instance of the motherly affection of a mouse, witnessed by Amos Kendall, and the impression it made upon him, are not unworthy of record. He was passing in the fall through his father's cornfield, when he came upon a bundle of cornstalks, lying between two rows, which had been overlooked when the rest were removed. He raised it up, when a mouse ran out of a nest which she had made under it. He sprang forward to kill her, when she suddenly stopped and turned back. Struck with this singular movement, he paused to await the result. The mouse came up to him, appearing to be perfectly tame. He stooped and put down his hand to her, when she crept into it and up his arm in the most confiding manner. On examining the nest, he found it full of young ones. It was evident that maternal affection had conquered fear; and her movements were so much like an appeal for mercy to her offspring, that young Kendall gently replaced the bundle of stalks upon the nest, and left her to raise her family in peace.

The day on which the Governor of Massachusetts was inaugurated was formerly known as "Lecture Day." It was a holiday for the farmers' boys, who spent it in fishing, hunting, or such other amusements as they might fancy. It was in the latter part of May, a season at which the birds had hatched their young or laid their eggs, and the boys of the neighborhood were accustomed to have a hunt on that day for blackbirds' eggs, for the birds themselves, for crows and other feathered game. A blackbird's egg counted one, a blackbird two, a crow's egg or a young crow five, an old crow ten, etc. A meeting was held and sides chosen some days before "Lecture Day," and the woods were scoured for crows nests. If any were found containing young ones, these were generally taken home and fed until the day of the hunt, for no bird not killed on that day was to be counted. The day was chiefly spent in exploring the bog meadows along Salmon Brook for blackbirds' eggs, and at first quarts of eggs were collected. In the afternoon the parties all came in, and the side which exhibited the most game was the victor. The day's amusement was closed by *threshing eggs*. In this game an egg was placed on the ground, and the thresher, taking his stand about two rods distant, with a large switch in his hand, advanced with his eyes shut, and made a blow at the egg. The only reward of victory in the hunt or the game was the pride of success.

These hunts were encouraged by the farmers of the neighborhood as means of diminishing the number of mischievous birds, and they were eminently successful.

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

## FROM ROCHESTER.

Two years ago, at Albany, we resolved to attend the convention here, just closed, and Providence favoring we have kept our resolve, although, owing to a blunder in the time table of the "Great Pennsylvania," we have lost one day of the convention. This we esteem no slight misfortune, as the gathering has been by far the most pleasant we have yet attended.

The number of deaf-mutes present on this occasion is one hundred and seventy-three, which is forty more than attended the meeting at Albany in '71. This large number is as gratifying as it is surprising to the officers of the Association, for, owing to the refusal of the N. Y. Central to furnish tickets at reduced rates, and the withdrawal of Mr. Syle and Mr. Reaves as orators of the day, it was feared the affair would prove a fizzle. That it did not is doubtless owing to the fact that deaf-mutes value these meetings of the Association more as social gatherings than for any benefit they expect to derive from the orations and addresses there delivered. This was proved by the fact that the arrivals on Thursday were more numerous than on previous days, as this was the day fixed for the banquet, ball, or social reunion, by whatever name it is called, and the majority left Friday morning before the convention was fairly over.

## THE WELCOME

of Mayor Wilder was conveyed to the members of the Association at their first gathering in the City Hall on the morning of the 27th, and it was informal, cordial, and sympathetic in its tone, and foreshadowed well the kindly treatment which they have received from the citizens of this pleasant town. It was followed by the address of the President, Mr. Rider, who at some length reviewed the progress of the Association during the past two years and showed it to be in a condition of great prosperity. He expressed the hope that the Association would soon be in a condition to aid its members when they were in trouble, and urged upon all their duty to contribute as far as they were able to place it upon a sound money footing. A well-filled treasury, he correctly reasoned, was one of the greatest powers of good; and he hoped that the time would come when the association would be able to insure the lives of its members and thus settle the question of life insurance of the deaf and dumb which was considered at Albany and upon which a committee had been instructed to report. By the way, the report of this committee was presented on the last day and owing to its length the want of time and the lack of interest in the subject among the members it was laid upon the table.

The report of the Treasurer, Mr. Taber, which followed the address of the President, corroborated his testimony as to the prosperity of the association by showing a balance of \$167.79 in the treasury and no debts.

## NATIONAL CONVENTION AT PHILADELPHIA IN 1876.

Mr. Steenrod, of West Virginia, during the morning session asked the approval by the convention of the project of holding a convention in Philadelphia on the fourth of July, 1876, during the Centennial Celebration. It was given with very little opposition, and as Mr. Steenrod is supported by many Southern deaf-mutes, we may regard the meeting as highly probable, and we look forward to it with no little pleasure.

## THE ORATION,

by Mr. John R. Burnet, M. A., was read from manuscript by Dr. Peet during the afternoon session. By some misunderstanding, Mr. Syle, the chosen orator of the day, and his alternate Mr. Reaves, both withdrew shortly before the gathering took place and much

praise is due Mr. Burnet for so creditably filling the gap thus occasioned. All regretted sincerely that owing to his advanced age and the distance Mr. B. was prevented from being present and delivering the oration in person. The production itself was intensely practical and all the more to be prized on that account, while the age and experience of Mr. Burnet gave it a value which has not always attached to similar essays. It is so full of good advice to the deaf and dumb that we think THE SILENT WORLD would do well to print it entire and in this hope we will say no more about it.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

were held in St. Luke's Church at 7.30 o'clock on the evening of the first day. They were conducted by Dr. Gallaudet and Rev. Mr. Berry assisted by two other ministers. The church was well-filled by deaf-mutes and many of the citizens of Rochester, and the close attention manifested throughout by both classes of the audience uphold the opinion that these services form one of the most interesting as well as the most directly beneficial of all the exercises at conventions. Owing to illness Bishop Coxe was not present at services, much to his own regret and the regret of the audience. He sent a letter expressing his sorrow at being compelled to remain away.

## THE EULOGY OF DR. PEET,

was delivered on the morning of the second day, by Mr. Alphonso Johnson, of the New York Institution, and was an elaborate and forcible production. The main facts in the life of Dr. Peet are already familiar to the most of your readers, and it only remains for us to remark that Mr. Johnson's view of the character of that eminent man is in many respects original and of value as being the expression of the honest convictions of a man of independent thought. At the conclusion, Rev. Mr. Berry testified to the kindness of Dr. Peet, his energy and wisdom, his kindly interest in each new instructor and the words of encouragement and sound advice with which he trained them for their work; and Dr. Peet bore witness to the faithfulness of Mr. Johnson's portrayal of the character of his father. A series of resolutions on the death of Dr. Peet were afterwards presented and adopted.

## PISCICULTURE.

THE short paper on the artificial propagation of fish which Mr. Seth Green read was both instructive and interesting. He related how his interest in the subject was first excited. It seems that one day he was fishing for trout in a stream in Canada when he saw some salmon splashing in the water—but we will let him tell his own story: "With a spear I crept behind a large tree near the water, and peeping out cautiously, saw five salmon and watched them: I was soon satisfied that a female was preparing a nest. I soon became interested and resolved to watch the work. As I could not see as well from the ground, I climbed about ten feet up the tree, and, finding a comfortable place, remained in that tree two days and watched the salmon as they made their nest and deposited their spawn. While seated in that tree I resolved to produce fish artificially. I thought I could bring out a much larger percentage from the eggs than the fish could in a natural way. I observed that as soon as the spawn was cast, the male salmon and brook trout began to devour it. When the water became still I could see but three or four eggs in the nest, which the female salmon was endeavoring to protect. I saw this operation several times."

In conclusion he pleasantly referred to the point of similarity between fish and deaf-mutes by saying, that, when the time is come when every man who lives within ten miles of one of Nature's fish barrels can go with rod and line and take a mess of fish therefrom, he should feel that he, by the aid of many others, had done his "share towards filling the waters with useful mutes. The fish are mutes. They can neither hear nor speak, but what they lose in



those senses they make up in seeing, smelling, tasting and feeling.

The gentleman was well interrogated by curious deaf-mutes some of whom wanted to know if he could raise young whales and sharks by his method. Mr. Green was evidently puzzled at such questions but he succeeded in satisfying the curiosity of most of his questioners.

#### DR. PEET ON TEMPERANCE.

This lecture was in a great measure impromptu, yet it abounded in good advice and solemn warning and aided by the powerful and impressive sign delivery of the Doctor was a very forcible handling of the subject. The lecturer understands how to hold the attention of a company of deaf-mutes, and for more than two hours the undivided attention which the association gave him attested his skill and their interest.

#### NO DRUNKENNESS.

What effect it will have upon those addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors we are unable to say. But we can say, and we say it with a great deal of pleasure, that there was not a single case of drunkenness as far as we know from personal observation during the whole convention. This is indeed a most agreeable change from the scenes at Albany, and it is a cause for heartfelt congratulation. It is true that we were told of one bad case, but his presence was not tolerated by the more respectable portion of the gathering, and he concluded to go home after one day of inglorious exhibition of his beastly propensities. The bearing of all others who attended this meeting was quiet and gentlemanly, and in consequence we can now show our face among Rochester people, with a glow of pride and pleasure and not with a blush of shame. The only thing that pained us is that some young men persisted in taking wine publicly at the hotel-table. Whether they did it the single instance that came under our observation out of a spirit of pure bravado, to show that they are not to be put down by THE SILENT WORLD; or whether it is a habitual practice with them, we do not know. For their own sakes, and for the sake of the institutions which they represent, will regard it in the first light and say no more about it.

#### THE LADIES AND THEIR INFLUENCE.

To what shall we attribute the marked improvement in the bearing of the members which was so noticeable and which is the source of so much gratification. No doubt much is due to the earnest admonitions of the President, Mr. Rider, and to Drs. Gallaudet and Peet and Mr. Burnet, all of whom besought them to remember that many eyes were upon them, and by their actions would the whole community be judged. Of as potent influence, we believe, was the presence of a large number of ladies. They were so faithful in their attendance at the meetings of the association, that a local paper naturally made the mistake of saying that the number of ladies present at the convention was greater than that of the gentlemen. Their hearty sympathy and the priceless value of their influence upon the character of the association received a ready acknowledgement and a deserved compliment in the resolutions of thanks which wound up the meeting.

#### THE SOCIAL REUNION,

or ball, which took place in Powers' Block, Main street, on the evening of the 28th, was an occasion long to be remembered. It never has been our good fortune to see a greater number of fair ladies collected together, than here displayed their charms. The artless grace and enthusiasm with which they entered into the dancing and other pleasures of the evening; their modesty and their loveliness, it was a pleasure to behold. The good time kept by the sets in quadrills was to us quite surprising, but is no doubt explained by the fact that a hearing gentleman led each set.

It was at this gathering that the members of the association had an opportunity of getting better acquainted with each other, and with visitors from other sections of the country. Mayor Wilder was there and by his genial presence and cordial manner won the hearts of all who had the pleasure of an introduction. The same is to be said of Mr. Powers, the generous and freehanded owner of the hall in which the gathering was held.

#### ROCHESTER GENEROSITY

was displayed in a substantial manner at this reunion. Owing to the difficulty of arranging the banquet, which was down in the programme, it was given up, and tickets to the reunion sold at \$1. Refreshments were also served on a limited scale. Many of the citizens came and handing in \$5. bills would refuse to take change, so that when all bills were settled over \$100. were found to have been added to the treasury as the proceeds of the affair. So successful was this reunion in every respect, and so evident the enjoyment of all who partook of its pleasures, that we but re-echo the opinion of many others in affirming our belief, that, were more opportunities for social pleasures presented at these conventions, they would be much more popular with the deaf and dumb than they are at present.

#### THE END.

This reunion was pretty much the last of the convention, for although there was a meeting the next morning, there were few present, large parties having gone off to Niagara Falls and neighboring resorts, and but little business was transacted.

The President, Mr. Rider, read an able address on the past, present and future of the association, in which he exhibited his firm belief in the good it would accomplish among the deaf and dumb, and gave evidence of the steady fire of enthusiasm that burns within him and eminently fits him for the vexatious position which he fills so well.

#### THE BOARD OF OFFICERS

for the ensuing two years is as follows:

*For President*, Henry C. Rider, by acclamation—this is his third term. *For Vice-President*, Gilbert Hicks. *For Secretary*, Henry A. Rumrill—re-elected. *For Treasurer*, Samuel A. Taber—re-elected by acclamation. *Board of Managers*—Northern New York, W. A. Winslow; Central New York, Joshua R. Pimm; Western New York, J. C. Acker; Southern New York, Gustave Fersenheim.

#### THE NEXT CONVENTION

will be held at Watertown on Lake Ontario, commencing on the last Wednesday of August 1875. This place is pronounced to be a very pleasant one for such a gathering, and the many pleasure resorts in its vicinity afford the means of passing a few days there with so much enjoyment that the gathering is expected to be a large one. Watertown does seem to us to be a little too far out of the way to make a convention held there entirely satisfactory, but the success of the last gathering has awakened in us such unbounded confidence in the managers of the New York Association that we shall go to Watertown two years hence (D. V.) with eyes shut, and with a sublime belief that we are going to have a good time. May there be many there: may the young ladies continue to favor these gatherings in such plentiful measure as they have doled out to Rochester: and may the young men ever walk as circumspectly and reflect as great honor upon their state and their *alma mater*.

Mr. Fort Lewis Seliney will be the orator of the day, and his enthusiasm and mental qualifications fit him to perform the office well; although from what we know of him we think his production will be of a totally different character from that of the last orator, which is just as well, considering his youth.

[CONTINUED ON SEVENTH PAGE.]

# THE SILENT WORLD.

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WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 15, 1873.

AN unusual press of other matter has compelled us to leave out "The Fortnight" from this number, as well as to postpone several interesting communications.

A DEAF-MUTE young man is said to have been robbed of a diamond pin late one night, at Rochester, during the late convention. It is a great pity, for diamond pins are not too numerous on deaf-mute shirt bosoms.

THE oration of Mr. Burnet at Rochester was so general in its bearing upon the deaf and dumb, and so full of instruction and advice, that in our next number we shall publish it entire. For the present it is unavoidably crowded out.

THE *Advance* is hard to please. It lately berated us soundly for not running down Dr. Gallaudet as hard as it wished. We made a desperate effort to meet its requirements, and now it accuses us of stealing from its twelve column article. Good gracious! We have never read that stupendous composition, and have never met with a person who has.

So far as we can learn from persons who were at Rochester, the late convention of the Empire State Association was a very pleasant and social affair. The proceedings were perhaps not of as much importance to deaf-mutes in general as were those at Albany two years ago. But we have no doubt those who were present enjoyed the occasion more, from the fact that it partook less of the character of a meeting of the American Social Science Association, and was rather an assemblage of old friends and schoolmates, come together to clasp hands and spend a few hours in social intercourse.

IN the language of a correspondent, "What a row Dr. Gallaudet's article has stirred up!" Everybody seems to have something to say about it, and the communications which we receive upon the subject would fill volumes. Well, whether the Dr. was right or not, he has at least accomplished one great good by saying what he did. The intelligent deaf-mutes of the country are awakened to a knowledge of the fact that, if their associations are not really hurtful in themselves, in more than one instance grave mistakes have been made in their management, which have tended to lower deaf-mutes, as a class, in the estimation of the hearing public. And as regards the deaf-mute newspaper, we believe that though none of those now or formerly in existence have wholly escaped from errors, the time is coming when principals, teachers, and all persons having anything to do with the education of the deaf and dumb, will regard it as a valuable aid to their efforts toward making deaf-mutes steady industrious and independent citizens. We shall see.

## HARVEY PRINDLE PEET.

AT the Fifth Biennial Convention of the Empire State Association of Deaf-mutes, held at Rochester, New York, August 27th, 28th and 29th, 1873, Mr. Alphonso Johnson, of the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted:

Whereas, on the 1st of January last, it was the pleasure of Almighty God to remove from among us our friend and benefactor, Harvey Prindle Peet, Ph.D. LL.D., who was, for a period of thirty-seven years, the able and efficient principal of the New York Institution for the education of the deaf and dumb; and whereas we, the members of the Empire State Association of Deaf-mutes in convention assembled, and who were formerly his pupils, entertain for his memory profound respect and esteem, therefore be it:

1. *Resolved*, That we sincerely lament the death of Dr. Peet, both on account of his disinterested labors for the intellectual, moral and religious improvement of the deaf and dumb, and his many good qualities which were so constantly manifested in all the relations of life.

2. *Resolved*, That we will ever treasure in our memories his virtues, believing that he possessed some of the best qualities of the teacher and principal, rarely, if ever, surpassed, and not often equalled.

3. *Resolved*, That, as an association banded together, having for its object the promotion of the intellectual, moral and spiritual welfare of the deaf and dumb—particularly the latter—we have special cause for gratitude to Dr. Peet who did so much for us.

4. *Resolved*, That the members of the Empire State Association for the Deaf and Dumb, desire, through this medium, to express their heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolence with the family of the deceased in this irreparable calamity which, in the wisdom of Divine Providence, has been visited upon them.

5. *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the widow of the deceased; also, one for publication to *The American Annals for the Deaf and Dumb*, *The Deaf-mute's Journal*, *The Silent World*, *The Deaf-mute Advance*, and to *Rev. Samuel Smith's Magazine for the Deaf and Dumb*, published in London England.

## FOILED AT LAST.

A LIFE insurance man of this city tackled a stranger the other day, and poured a stream of standard insurance eloquence upon him, that would have overwhelmed any ordinary man. But this was an extraordinary man: a kind Providence had endowed him with the means that enabled him to bear the burden which was being thrown upon him without a groan. The victim didn't make a show of resistance, and the agent, encouraged, brought new devilish engines to bear. He unfolded twenty-seven circulars containing insurance literature; waxed eloquent on the advantage presented by his company; pointed out the superior merits of the endowment plan: enlarged on the developments of the life table; wept over the possibility of the stranger's shuffling off and leaving a wife and nine children, to buffet with the world without insurance money; quoted scripture to show that it was every well regulated man's duty to take out a policy: and finally, out of solicitude for the eternal welfare of the man himself, and the temporal welfare of his family, offered to throw off the amount of his commission in the adjustment of the first premium. He was gratified to note the *mute* astonishment of his victim at the overpowering array of facts and figures; but ascertained, just as he was beginning his speech on the second round, that the man was also deaf. Suffering humanity has been revenged on one life insurance agent.

—*Columbus Journal*.



[CONTINUED FROM FIFTH PAGE.]

## SIDE SCENES.

Of course this gathering in Rochester greatly excited the curiosity of the citizens, and there were constantly a number of hearing people in attendance on the meetings of the association. Hackmen, boot-blacks and newsboys were a little nonplused at first to find that all their yelling was of no avail, and they quieted down, but soon, mustering such natural signs as they could command they tried, often successfully, to induce the members to patronize them. To beguile purchasers, store-keepers resorted to chalking the merits of their wares in stunning characters on the flag-stone pavements in front of their stores, and the ear doctors gave their shingles an extra rub, and dusted their instruments in anticipation of a rush of business.

On the platform in the City Hall were placed a couple of those slates with which all deaf-mutes who have attended a northern institution are so familiar. On them from time to time were chalked such notices as this: "Found, on this floor, on last afternoon, a gold eye glass;" which proclaimed to an outsider the character of the company there assembled.

Many of the young people remained at the ball till the wee sma' hours were well advanced on Thursday night, and we were told of an unique method of awakening those young men who wished to be stirring before all had left the next day. One instructed a friend to awaken him at a certain hour. This he proceeded to do but was puzzled to find his friend's door locked. Pounding was vain, and after a brief survey, this genius picked up the door mat and tossed it over the ventilator at the top of the door, so that it landed pat where it would do the most good. The awakening was a success. Ever since at hotels where we have stopped, we have instructed the hall porter how to throw mats in case of fire.

The gentleman, who, as the biographer of George Washington and Hendrick Hudson, entertained the convention at Albany, was here also, with an immense roll of manuscript, wandering about in his long linen duster, and with dishevelled hair, vainly endeavoring to get an opportunity to enlighten the association concerning those two illustrious individuals. He was effectually staved off and now probably considers himself a deeply injured man. His erratic genius in many points bears a striking resemblance to that of the Great American Traveller, Daniel Pratt.

The attention given to the speakers at this convention was fair; that it was not perfect is natural considering that the excitement of meeting old friends and schoolmates who were constantly recognizing and greeting each other during the exercises, was an element not calculated to calm and predispose the mind to that close attention necessary to follow the logic of the orators. We were conscious of being inattentive at times and, like others, we meant no disrespect, and on any other occasion would doubtless have found the speeches entrancing in their interest. This strengthens the opinion of many that more time and opportunity for social intercourse should be provided at these gatherings and then greater attention will be paid to the speakers.

The only sad event we have to record in connection with this convention is the serious illness of Miss Gertrude C. Walter, of New York City. She had come to the convention in the enjoyment of her usual health, but was taken seriously ill on the night of the ball and at the present writing there is no improvement in her condition. Her amiable character has made her many friends who are deeply concerned for her, and we sincerely hope her restoration to health will be speedy and complete.

## BEHIND THE SCENES.

The pleasantest hours which were granted to many of those in attendance on this convention were those in which they were taking

a quiet drive around the city with chosen companions, or enjoying the hospitalities of some citizen of the place.

The quiet little tea party which Miss Libbie Sherlock gave to a few of her friends, (among whom we were happily included) at the residence of her brother, over which she gracefully presides, was a very pleasant affair, and is stored up among our most valued recollections of this convention.

Then, too, we were specially favored in being allowed to witness the operation of the system of instruction pursued by Miss Ellen L. Barton who has charge of the education of the little deaf and dumb daughter of Mr. Gilman H. Perkins, a prominent merchant of Rochester. This little girl is a bright, beautiful child of five summers, in whom, owing to her tender years, our common misfortune seemed even to us, more than usually pathetic. Miss Barton is a pupil of Mr. Bell whose system of Visible Speech has of late excited so much attention, and at the commencement of the exercises we looked more for "visible speech" than aught else. At the close we had forgotten about visible speech altogether, so little is the means brought forward in an exhibition of the results of the instruction: and now, as we write, we are surprised to find that not one jot has been added to our previous knowledge of this system. We only know that we were deeply interested in observing that this little deaf and dumb girl of five years could understand *written* sentences of six or seven words in length: that she could *write* correct answers to written questions, and that in all other attainments except speech she is the equal of a hearing child one or two years older. She can speak but a very few words, as yet; having been born deaf; and, as far as we observed, speech seemed no special object of instruction: that may be left to the future, when the child's faculties have been more fully developed.

We find that, in summing up the results of our observations, which we do solely from the impression made upon us at the time, we are prepared to give very little credit to the system of visible speech; it all goes to the teacher. It is plainly evident, at least, that Miss Barton is an enthusiast in her calling, and truly philosophic in her method of imparting a knowledge of language by taking entire sentences at one time, the little girl learning to comprehend their meaning by frequently seeing them written in connection with certain objects and actions, as the hearing child hears them spoken under the same conditions. There is no analysis of their component parts; and the little girl has no more idea of many words that help to make up the sentence than the hearing child; and, yet, were those words left out she would fail to take in the meaning intended.

Miss Barton goes to England in the spring, to undertake the education of the child of an English gentleman, Mr. Acker, whose presence in this country, in search of a teacher, was recorded by THE SILENT WORLD some time since. We have no doubt success will be hers, and she certainly has our best wishes, but we shall regret the loss to deaf-mutes of this country of so accomplished a teacher.

There were many other speeches behind the scenes which it was not permitted our prying eyes to see, and which in themselves, though small, have contributed much to the pleasure and success of the gathering, and we hope others will favor your readers with such as come under their notice. We verily believe that had a few of those who prate against conventions been here, their opinions regarding the utility of these meetings would have changed materially. We for one hope the convention is a firmly established institution, for we feel convinced that much good flows therefrom.

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 29, 1873.

H.

Don't loaf about the streets and depend on the Lord for your daily bread. He isn't running a bakery.

## "THE SILENT WORLD."

The *Christian Weekly*, of September 13, has an article from the pen of Mr. William R. Hooper, a Baltimore newspaper correspondent, in which, under the head of "The Silent World," he gives his own impressions of scenes and incidents at the last commencement of the National Deaf-Mute College, and of the deaf and dumb in general. He says some good things and makes not a few amusing blunders. We reprint that part of the article in question which will most interest our readers.

"It is singular that in all ages there has been a bitter and unkind prejudice against those who, deprived of so many sources of enjoyment, the more need the kindly offices of charity. Till within a century, deaf-mutes were too often ranked with idiots and imbeciles; which may be partially accounted for by the fact that they were then deprived of all pretence of education, and their uncouth gibberings and attempts at expression, were too often mistaken for evidence of lack of sense. And this prejudice was not confined to the ignorant or the thoughtless. Aristotle denies to them the possession of intellect; the Justinian Code declares them incapable of civil acts. And it is a singular and an amusing instance of false logic, that the great father of the early church, Augustine, places them without the pale of Christianity, and beyond the possibility of salvation. "For no man," saith he, "can be saved without faith: and faith only cometh by hearing, and, therefore, the deaf, who cannot hear, can never be saved!"

There are in the United States not far from twenty thousand persons who are deaf and dumb. One hundred of these are also blind; and about twenty are blind, deaf, dumb, insane, or idiotic. Poor poor things: possessing life, indeed, but nothing that makes life valuable or enjoyable. For the instruction of these twenty thousand persons, there are some thirty-five institutions, the oldest not yet three-score years of age: most of them not twenty years old. Prior to the birth of those of us who are just passing out of middle age, there was not a single place in the land where one of this large number could be educated. To-day there is hardly a State ten years old that does not offer to its deaf-mutes some educational advantages. And from them all come up those who desire to obtain something more than a good English education, and centralize at the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. Government defrays all the expenses of this class, who come from the District of Columbia, or whose parents are in the army or navy. Those students from the States and Territories, who can afford it, bear their own expenses. But to the deserving poor, desirous of obtaining the advantages of a good education, the Board of Directors have thus far been able to render such assistance that no one has been deprived by poverty of pursuing their studies to the point of a classical education. Chill penury has never repressed their noble rage after knowledge.

It is significant of a decided change of the popular feeling towards the deaf and dumb, that, as time rolls on, they are less and less looked upon as the inmates of Asylums, or the recipients of charity. Public opinion is rapidly settling down to the consciousness of the fact that the State owes the same debt of education to these children that it does to others. All the institutions of which we have spoken provide that grade of instruction for deaf-mutes that is offered to other children in primary and grammar schools; and in addition to ordinary institutions, the majority of schools also teach some remunerative trade. The scholars leave these institutions of learning, fully armed for the battle of life—able to support themselves and families that naturally grow up around them. A generation ago the deaf-mute was a consumer, always a helpless burden on the kindness of friends or the cold charity of the community. To-day

he is a producer, supporting himself and his family: laying up something for old age; meeting the responsibilities as well as enjoying the privileges of manhood. It is a significant fact of the value of education, even under discouraging circumstances, that there is a demand at remunerative employment for all the graduates the college sends forth. These graduates, the day they leave the institution, average an income of from one thousand to twelve hundred dollars a year. We doubt if any other college in the land averages better by its alumni.

It is a pleasant sight to stand in the play-grounds of the college and to see the zest with which they enjoy the athletic qualities of a game of base-ball, or thread the croquet through its iron hoops. The first sensation is that of expectation for the hearty cry of "foul," or muff, or base; but all is silent. But if there is no sound, there is plenty of action. Eyes and fingers make up the deficiency of tongues and ears. And as we stand looking at them, there comes the pleasant reflection of the great advantage of being deaf and dumb. Just think of never uttering or hearing a falsehood! Not one of these students has ever spoken an unkind word. Their whole lives through they have maintained a modest silence. If they have made no noise in the world, neither have they ever originated a scandalous report, or broken the peace of families by loud contentions. Every single one of them has come up to the grandmotherly definition of a good little child, who is "seen but not heard." Never do they occupy so much time at public, or prayer-meetings, that every one else wishes they would sit down and stop talking. After all the deaf-mutes have some privileges the rest of us might well be grateful for.

Yet it should not be imagined that because a cloistered silence pervades their classic walls, that there is any lack of intellectual energy. As at Harvard and Yale, the debating club is the centre of oratorical supremacy, where coming greatness is first shadowed forth to admiring friends. "The Silent World," whose title we have put at the head of this article is the fortnightly paper that rivals the Yale Courant and the Williams Vidette. The weekly prayer meeting is maintained by the students alone; the Sabbath services are in the deaf-mute language; and the reading-room is well supplied and patronized. Boating occupies the same elevated rank here as at other intellectual centres. In short, all that make the Alma Mater and its remembrances dear to the alumni of any college, may be found in full force at the Deaf-mute College at Washington.

And these students have another great advantage in belonging to the only class who possess a language known wherever civilization has reached. An American deaf-mute would be understood by deaf-mutes in any part of the world. For their signs do not represent sounds, but ideas. These signs are not grounded on language, are not arbitrary, are not national. They are based on the plan of *De l'Epee*, who more than a century ago systematized the actions of the deaf and dumb sisters, when they held communication with each other. The signs and actions of deaf-mutes are based on the natural tendency of human nature to express itself by acts rather than words. They are akin to the representative sign of Indian eloquence. They are but the further development of that action, which Demosthenes declares to be the corner-stone of all oratory. We were struck at our attendance at the last commencement of the college to see—for we did not hear—a graduate describe centralization as one of our national dangers. To image this centralization to the bodily eye, he drew a circle through the air and then punched an imaginary hole through its centre. One of the orations at the commencement was articulated by a student, who probably never heard the sound of his own voice, but who made himself perfectly understood vocally. The Salutatory, the Valdictory, and the other orations were doubtless full of eloquence, but there was no audience



for them. Eyes had they who were present, but not ears; and the arguments were much looked at, but not listened to. And we came away from that commencement, rejoicing in behalf of humanity, that this large class, twenty thousand strong in our own nation alone, is thus brought into the circle of educated humanity, clothed with all its rights and privileges, and so well fitted to improve the powers with which they, as well as we, are endowed."

We greatly fear Mr. Hooper is mistaken about the wonderful advantages of being deaf and dumb. "Never *speaking* unkind words," "always maintaining a modest silence," "never originating scandalous reports or breaking the peace of families by loud contentions," "never taking more than our share of the time at public or prayer-meetings"—O what angels we are!

And how about that new sign for centralization? What a credit to the system of *natural* signs that an interrogation point should be so misinterpreted.

#### DEAF-MUTE NEWSPAPERS AND ASSOCIATIONS.

*Gentlemen of The Silent World:* A great deal of discussion has been called out by the article with the above heading in the July *Annals*. However, two important facts bearing on this subject seem to have escaped the notice of President Gallaudet's critics. These facts, which I will now present, lead me partly to consider favorably of his views. At any rate there is no necessity to protest against the opinion of such an eminent friend of the deaf and dumb. No doubt exists in the minds of any but that in saying what he did he was actuated by the purest motives.

The first fact is in regard to a country newspaper, published in New York, and partly devoted to the deaf and dumb. How was the deaf-mute department started? Why, with aid from the State Legislature! Three columns devoted to the deaf and dumb, in a common country newspaper, distributed free to deaf-mutes living in different counties of New York! Severe words are wanting to condemn this downright beggary at least.

However, I am in favor of and admire any deaf-mute undertaking to put a newspaper of their own or such kind into existence directly out of his own, or other deaf-mutes' pockets, in spite of risks. Such papers deserve to be honored and sustained by every independent deaf-mute as well as their hearing friends.

The second and last fact I am deeply mortified to mention. I hope it will awaken the members and friends of the New England Gallaudet Association of Deaf-mutes to a sense of jealousy of its honor and integrity. At the close of the year 1871, the president of the association, without the consent or knowledge of the board of officers, appointed an agent to collect money among the wealthy hearing community in Boston, Mass., for the benefit of that society; and the agent raised several hundred dollars, and retained forty per cent. of the proceeds as his commission, allowed by the president. What is the object of deaf-mutes to convene? To meet, and shake hands, and then to adjourn. Could they sustain the association in their power and out of their means, and meet expenses without help from outside, except donations coming in unsolicited, all would be very well. But should the course pursued by the president in 1871 be winked at? The association should be laid under sod. Or, for the sake of the memory of President G.'s illustrious father, I propose the members strike the name "Gallaudet" out of its title.

Yours, respectfully, C. AUG. BROWN.

Belfast, Maine, Sept. 1, 1873.

LAST Tuesday a deaf-mute named Parsons was run over by a freight train at Richmond, Ross county, Ohio inflicting injuries which will probably result fatally.

#### PERSONAL.

MR. MARION McD. LITTLETON, a former pupil of the Ohio Institution, is at work in a nail-factory, at Bellaire, Ohio.

MR. CHARLES O'BRIEN, a graduate of Pennsylvania, and now a thriving farmer of Kent Co., Md, was visiting old friends in Washington recently, and dropped into our office.

WM. K. CHASE, one of the original managers of the Gallaudet Guide, and a former officer of the New England Association, is now a substantial farmer of Mandarin, Florida.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "By the great fire of the 24th instant. Mr. N. E. Pendleton and his wife lost everything in the house and on the clothes line, except what they wore on their backs, and the sewing-machine, which latter was rescued in a damaged condition." Mr. Pendleton has been a steady subscriber to THE SILENT WORLD. We, in common with all his friends, extend our warmest sympathies in this misfortune.

BOB ARGO, a semi-mute down in the Blue Grass Regions of Kentucky, is a celebrated bee keeper. His net profits on bees alone during a poor season were \$700.

MR. WM. COPELAND, a graduate of the South Carolina Inst., and now a deputy clerk in a county court-house, passed through the Ky. Inst. on his way to Tennessee. A letter giving an account of the sights he has seen, may be expected from him.

A mute printer, named Jesse Hoagland, of Louisville, Ky., a graduate of the Ky. Inst., was recently married to Miss Kitty Lee, of New Albany Ind., a graduate of the Indiana Institution.

REV. LLEWELYN PRATT, at one time a teacher in the Pennsylvania Institution and then connected with the National Deaf-Mute College, but now the pastor of a church in North Adams, Mass., is spending a few weeks at his home in Center Brook, Conn. His health is not of the best and he hopes to recruit his strength there.

#### RUN OVER BY THE CARS.

SOME weeks ago an uneducated deaf-mute, about twenty-two years of age, and a black-smith by trade, was run over by a train on the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad, near Lynchburg, Va., and suffered the loss of a leg thereby. The Rail-road Company cared for him after the accident. The Lynchburg *Chronicle* says of him:

The deaf-mute, whose serious injury and loss of alimb was mentioned some six weeks since, has so far recovered as to be able to hop around his room on crutches. The strangest of strange things is that no information can be obtained as to his former home, or what his name really is, although great publicity has been given to the circumstances of his case by the press of this city and other papers throughout the country.

Much credit is due the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad Company for the care and attention bestowed upon this unfortunate creature, when in no event can any blame attach to the company or any of its employees.

OFFICER White yesterday arrested, and lodged at the Oliver Street Station, a lad named Charles Perry, on the charge of street begging. Perry is subject to fits, and frequently falls down in street cars and on the sidewalks, and makes a terrible fuss until the response to a paper representing him as destitute and deaf and dumb comes in the shape of dimes and quarters from too sympathetic people. It is supposed that he plays his spells often.—*Cincinnati Commercial*.

AN engineer has invented a machine which will cut off the general reporter from many an item. It is a hot-water pump with which to squirt deaf men off the track.

## COLLEGE RECORD.

## THE COLLEGE SOCIETIES.

BOTH the Literary Society, and its older brother, the Reading Club, wound up their affairs at the end of last year in a very flourishing condition. The interest of students in the latter organization has never flagged, since the day when its constitution was drawn up, and as for the former, though the members dropped off along in mid-winter, and the society seemed on its last legs, there was soon a reaction, all the old enthusiasm of the students was revived, and when the members separated at the close of the last meeting, it was with mutual resolutions to "do big things next year."

In the constitution, it is provided that seventy-five per cent of the funds of the society shall be devoted to the purchase of books for the library. This, in our opinion, was the best rule there while the Institution library was limited. But recently the latter has been enriched by the addition of several hundred volumes, comprising all the treasures of fiction, history, poetry, biography and miscellaneous reading which any one could wish. There is consequently now absolutely no occasion for the students to continue building up a library of their own. Shall we alter the constitution as regards this feature, and if so how can the money heretofore devoted to the purchase of books be best disposed of? It has been suggested that a series of prizes in composition and debate be offered. Has any body a better plan to suggest? We pause for a reply.

The Reading Club is self-supporting, the membership fee being one dollar a year. It subscribes for all the principal magazines published in this country, as well as the prominent weeklies, and a daily paper. Students have, no doubt, more interest in this club than in for their own good, as it leads them to spend time in the Reading-room which should be devoted to lessons. However, the faculty think that this is better than the opposite extreme.

## PACK YOUR TRUNKS.

CARROL, '73, started for Minnesota, on Monday, Sept. 1. May he prosper.

PLASTERERS are at work repairing the ceiling of the College Dining Room, which was injured by a leaky roof last year.

TUTOR DRAFER returned to Washington on Saturday, August 30. Wednesday night he left for New York, to meet President Gallaudet and family. Chapin, '74, stands guard over the Institution during his absence.

THE pupils of the Institution evidently think they have a natural claim to part of the grape-patch. We met several of them returning from that attractive region the other day, all with their hands full, and one with a market-basket piled high with the fruit. So far as we are concerned, however, we have no objection to their inroads, for all the pleasure of our vacation has been marred by visions of grapes served up next year for tea.

## INSTITUTION NEWS.

## INDIANA.

THE main building has been painted a delicate cream color, and marked off in imitation of stone. It is very much improved in appearance. The school house is to undergo the same operation.

Besides this, many other repairs and additions have been completed during the vacation. The shoe-shop is enlarged, and many new out-buildings erected.

Mr. W. N. Burt, one of our teachers, was married September 2, to a lady of Franklin, Ind.

## KENTUCKY.

MR. J. A. JACOB, the principal, has just returned from Missouri, where he has been on a visit to his parents; also to prop up his health, which has, of late, become much impaired. He is looking improved now.

Only three pupils received certificates of graduation from this Institution, at the close of the last session. They were Mr. O. B. Anderson, and Misses L. Thomas and S. F. Grissour. It is hoped that this trio will prove an honor to their alma mater.

Nineteen pupils are left in the institution at present, one of whom will, to-morrow, be dismissed for offenses of an extremely disgusting nature. This disreputable individual had previously been, for a number of years, a pupil in the Pennsylvania Institution, from which it is said he was expelled.

Mr. Schoolfield, a teacher, is rusticated at his mother-in-law's, with his wife and child, near Louisville. They are all enjoying excellent health.

Miss Stephens, who taught in Mrs. Heron's place, during her indisposition, is at her home near Lancaster, where the cholera has been raging for two weeks past. Mr. George, Mr. Talbot and Miss Jones are spending the vacation in Danville. Mr. Talbot is busily engaged in building himself a neat house a few miles out of town. It is not known who is to succeed Mrs. Heron, recently resigned, as teacher.

Cholera is making sad havoc in our neighboring towns, but no case has thus far been reported within our precincts. We hope we may be spared a visit from the dread scourge.

I am glad to say the sentiment of the more intelligent mutes is strongly in favor of THE SILENT WORLD. The September number made its appearance yesterday prompt on time, and its contents were devoured with great avidity.

D. W. G.

Danville Aug. 31.

## OHIO.

DURING the vacation, which closes on Wednesday the 10th instant, the institution building has undergone a general renovation, and is now almost ready for the reception of the pupils.

Noticeable among the improvements made, are the division of the old High Class room into two separate apartments, and the extension of the hall the entire length of the building; the taking out of the ventilating registers and closing up the places which Superintendent Fay thinks were so constructed as to be of little or no use in purifying the house, according to scientific ventilation theories.

The iron fence around the institution grounds, spoken of in a previous communication of mine, is now all up and, only awaiting the finishing touches of the paint brush. When completed it will add greatly to the attractions of the grounds; but at the same time it will also prove an obstacle to base ball players especially when the ball is knocked over the fence as it will not be so kindly scaled as the old one.

Fifty applications for admission have been received; but it is feared that a full attendance at the opening will not be secured as hucksters doing business in this city have been busy spreading reports all over the country representing the city as a hot-bed of cholera, and most of the country people have been green enough to swallow the stories. The fact is only a few cases occurred a month or more ago, and at present if newspapers are to be believed, the plague has disappeared entirely.

A few changes in the list of officers have occurred. Miss Rosa O. Gildersleeve who has taught here successfully for the last four years tendered her resignation last June for the laudable object of pursuing a higher course of education, in the young ladies seminary at Granville Ohio. Miss M. M. Noyes who came to teach the articulation class last January, has severed her connection with the institution, to become a missionary in China. Miss Fannie Brown who has taught here about a year and a half, has also resigned to accept a similar position in the Illinois Institution. To fill these vacancies, Miss Linnie Cross, Miss Sarah M. Perry, sister of the present instructor of the High Class; and Mrs. J. Kessler, who until recently taught a kindergarten school in Chicago, have been appointed. This will make the present corps of teachers stand fourteen ladies to seven gentlemen.

Mr. Fay proposes hereafter to institute monthly social gatherings for the pupils and to carry out this purpose the school will be divided into three divisions, so that the first will hold one once a month, the second the next and so on. The arrangement will no doubt prove beneficial and enjoyable to all concerned.

Mr. Patterson, '70, stopped at the Institution on the 23rd ult. on his way to make a visit to Carrol, of '73, and we are happy to know that his enthusiasm for THE SILENT WORLD is unabated.

Park, '73, returned home on the 1st inst. from a month's jaunt up in Northern Ohio, looking hearty and hale.

Greener, '77, made flying visits down to the Hocking and Maumee Valleys, visiting the Reform School at the former and the National Soldiers' Home at the latter place, returning last Saturday to lay up a few more stamps at the Institution bindery before returning to his books on the 22nd inst.

Mr. Carrol stopped at the Institution on the 4th inst. to take a glance at his former alma mater before going to the scene of his labors as teacher in the Minnesota Institution.

An Illinois deaf and dumb belle was married recently to a blind bridegroom, to whom she showed her ability to be faithful during a long engagement.